



# News Release

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Contact: Media inquiries: Allison Cook, Communications Office  
Public inquiries: Health Systems Customer Service

360-236-4022  
360-236-4700

## State disciplines health care providers

**OLYMPIA** — The Washington State Department of Health has taken disciplinary actions or withdrawn charges against health care providers in our state.

The department's Health Systems Quality Assurance Office works with boards, commissions, and advisory committees to set licensing standards for more than 70 health care professions (e.g., medical doctors, nurses, counselors).

Information about health care providers is on the agency Web site. Click on "Provider Credential Search" on the left hand side of the [Department of Health home page](http://www.doh.wa.gov) (www.doh.wa.gov). The site includes information about a health care provider's license status, the expiration and renewal date of their credential, disciplinary actions and copies of legal documents issued after July 1998. This information is also available by calling 360-236-4700. Consumers who think a health care provider acted unprofessionally are also encouraged to call and report their complaint.

## Benton County

In March 2009 the Nursing Assistant Program denied the application of **Tarah LaRae Stepper** (NA60069097). She was convicted of possession of marijuana, minor in possession, possession of a controlled substance, and unlawful drug paraphernalia.

## Chelan County

In March 2009 the Medical Commission amended the statement of charges against physician **Kenneth M. Jones** (MD00028268). He allegedly aided or abetted unlicensed practice of medicine by allowing unlicensed persons to evaluate clients, provide injections, use his name to obtain and use equipment, and use his DEA number to obtain medications. Jones also misprescribed human growth hormone to two patients.

## Clark County

In March 2009 the Medical Commission released physician **Rod I. Belkin** (MD00025808) from terms and conditions placed against his license. Dr. Belkin's license is now unrestricted in Washington.

### **Clallam County**

In March 2009 the Nursing Commission charged advanced registered nurse practitioner and registered nurse **Deborah A. Stokke** (AP30001238, RN00051571) with unprofessional conduct. She allegedly failed to comply with previous terms and conditions set against her license.

### **Grant County**

In March 2009 the Medical Commission amended the statement of charges against physician **Irene K. Kimura** (MD00032544). She allegedly failed to adequately treat a patient's diagnosis resulting in the patient's death.

### **King County**

In March 2009 the Surgical Technologist Program granted the application of **Devon N. Bauer** (ST60027002) and placed her registration on probation for one year. Her registration to practice as a nursing assistant was revoked. She must comply with terms and conditions set against her registration.

In March 2009 the Examining Board of Psychology entered into an agreed order with **David L. Celio** (PY00000623). He was convicted of health care fraud. He must comply with terms and conditions set against his license.

In March 2009 the Health Care Assistant Program charged **Deanna R. Holmes** (HC60017467) with unprofessional conduct. She was convicted of driving under the influence.

In March 2009 the Nursing Assistant Program denied the application of **Hillary C. Howe** (NA60020265). She was convicted of obstructing a law enforcement officer and assault.

In March 2009 the Nursing Commission reinstated the license of licensed practical nurse **Janice L. Morrow** (LP00037943) and placed her license on probation. She must comply with terms and conditions set against her license.

In March 2009 the Medical Commission terminated the terms and conditions against the license of physician **Patrick T. Phan** (MD00026346). Dr. Phan's Washington license is unrestricted.

In March 2009 the Registered Counselor Program granted the application of **Beth Lynn Ragsdale Roth** (RC60062234) and placed her registration on probation for two years. She was convicted of driving under the influence, identity theft, and forgery. She must comply with terms and conditions set against her license.

In March 2009 the Health Care Assistant charged **Joyce R. Rankin** (HC00154631) with unprofessional conduct. She allegedly failed to comply with previous terms and conditions set against her license.

In March 2009 the Examining Board of Psychology reinstated the license of **George W. Recknagel, Jr.** (PY00002604).

In March 2009 the Board of Pharmacy charged **Vardges Saroyan** (VB00046649) with unprofessional conduct. He was convicted of possession of a controlled substance.

### **Kitsap County**

In April 2009 the Health Care Assistant and Dietitian and Nutritionist Programs charged **Colleen M. Cates-Gorang** (HC00144152, DI00000159) with unprofessional conduct. She allegedly failed to comply with previous terms and conditions set against her licenses.

In March 2009 the Nursing Assistant Program charged certified nursing assistant **Mary Grace G. Felicisimo** (NC10072874) with unprofessional conduct. She allegedly took money from several veterans home residents and has been prohibited from working with vulnerable adults. She was convicted of theft.

### **Pierce County**

In March 2009 the Nursing Commission placed the license of **Luis Ibarra** (RN00144561) on probation for two years. He made inappropriate comments to a patient, failed to use gloves or drape the patient while checking her catheter, and contacted the patient when he was instructed not to. He must comply with terms and conditions set against him.

In March 2009 the Registered Counselor and Chemical Dependency Programs charged **James Lawrence Johnson** (RC00037638, CP00004684) with unprofessional conduct. He allegedly touched a child's breasts and has been charged with child molestation.

In March 2009 the Medical Commission charged physician **Robert W. Kunkle** (MD00028126) with unprofessional conduct. He allegedly failed to meet the standard of care either in making treatment recommendations or in providing treatment to three patients, and failed to keep adequate records and documentation.

In March 2009 the Orthotics and Prosthetics Programs terminated the order of probation against **Justin Maughan** (PS00000183, OI00000326).

### **Spokane County**

In February 2009 the Board of Physical Therapy denied the application of physical therapist assistant **Michael W. Allen** (P160041002). He was convicted of reckless endangerment, physical control, and driving under the influence on more than one occasion. He also failed to disclose convictions on his application.

In March 2009 the X-Ray Technician Program released **Justin T. Arbury** (XT00007082) from the conditions set against his license.

In March 2009 the Medical Commission reinstated the license of physician **Stephen R. Sears** (MD00020357). Dr. Sear's license is now unrestricted in Washington.

### **Whatcom County**

In February 2009 the Board of Pharmacy denied the application of pharmacy intern **Harry Charles Woodfield III** (IR60067302). His license to practice as a pharmacist in North Carolina was indefinitely suspended.

### **Yakima County**

In March 2009 the Nursing Commission entered into an agreed order with registered nurse **Debra J. Good** (RN00158527). She was convicted of driving under the influence. She must comply with terms and conditions set against her license.

In March 2009 the Chemical Dependency Professional Program granted the application of **Brittany Corinne Schill** (CP60067924) and placed her license on probation. Her registration to practice as a registered counselor was placed on probation for three years. She must comply with terms and conditions set against her license.

### **Out of State**

**Kansas:** In March 2009 the Dental Commission reinstated the license of dentist **Joan M. Hoverman** (DE00008165) and placed her license on probation for five years. She must comply with terms and conditions set against her license.

**Oregon:** In March 2009 the Nursing Commission reinstated the license of licensed practical nurse **Laurencetta Hawkins** (LP00052753) and placed her license on probation for 18 months. She must comply with terms and conditions set against her license.

**Note to Editors:** Health care providers charged with unprofessional conduct have 20 days to respond to the Department of Health in writing. The case then enters the settlement process. If no disciplinary agreement can be reached, the case will go to a hearing.

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Visit the Washington Department of Health Web site at <a href="http://www.doh.wa.gov">http://www.doh.wa.gov</a> for a healthy dose of information.
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